

# NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

## FACT SHEET

(pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

**Permittee Name:** Nevada Department of Corrections  
P.O. Box 7011  
Carson City, NV 89702

**Permit Number:** NEV90009

**Location:** Tonopah Conservation Camp, Nye County, Nevada  
10 mi. NE of Tonopah & ¾ mi. W of S.R. 376  
Latitude: 38° 10' 13"N, Longitude: 117° 06' 24"W  
Township 4N, Range 43E, Section 25

**General:** The Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC) operates the Tonopah Conservation Camp (TCC), which is located approximately 6.9 miles north of the junction of US-6 and SR-376 in Big Smoky Valley, Nye County, Nevada. TCC is a minimum-security men's conservation camp, which began operating in 1991. At present this facility houses approximately 150 inmates and employs 12 correctional staff. The Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) maintains an office at this facility and employs approximately 10 staff. The camp is currently operating at its maximum inmate population.

Primary (settling) treatment of the domestic wastewater generated at this facility occurs in two (2) 10,000-gallon septic tanks, which are operated in series. Grease interceptors (2,250-gallon capacity (kitchen waste) and 250-gallon (garbage can wash pad)), which discharge to the septic tanks, are installed outside the camp's culinary building. Effluent from the septic tanks discharges to a manual dosing chamber. Effluent from the dosing chamber discharges to one of four leach areas which is dosed for one month and then allowed to rest for three months. The leachfield consists of four separate leaching areas (@ 900 lineal feet each; total of 3,600 lineal feet (36 lines @ 100 feet each)).

**Flow:** Average flow for the period July 2006 to June 2007 was reported to be 19,126 gallons per day. This is right at the 85% design capacity. However, the flow reported may be inaccurate as it is that of the metered domestic water and not the actual flow into the sewage treatment system. A flow metering system needs to be installed at the septic tanks to ensure accurate flow measurements. DMR reports indicate that peizometers at the ends of the leachlines have been dry for the past several years.

**Receiving Water Characteristics:** The receiving water for septic tank effluent is groundwater via subsurface percolation in the leachfields. Depth to groundwater is reported by the Permittee to be 300+ feet. The camp's potable water is supplied by Tonopah Public Utilities from wells at Rye Patch, which are located approximately 2 miles north-northeast of the TCC.

**Proposed Effluent Limitations and Special Conditions:**

**Table 1: Plant Discharge Limitations**

PARAMETER	DISCHARGE LIMITATIONS	MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	
		Measurement Frequency	Sample Type
Wastewater Flow (Influent), gallons per day	Daily Maximum 22,500	Continuous	Domestic Water Meter
BOD <sub>5</sub> (Influent), mg/L	Monitor & Report	Quarterly	Discrete
BOD <sub>5</sub> (Effluent), mg/L	Monitor & Report	Quarterly	Discrete
TSS (Influent), mg/L	Monitor & Report	Quarterly	Discrete
TSS (Effluent), mg/L	Monitor & Report	Quarterly	Discrete
Total Nitrogen (Effluent), mg/L	Monitor & Report	Quarterly	Discrete
Inmate Population, # of persons	Monitor & Report	Quarterly	Population Count
Sludge & Scum Depth, feet or inches (Each Septic Tank)	Monitor & Report	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarters	Discrete
Liquid Level Depth, feet or inches (Each Septic Tank)	Monitor & Report	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarters	Discrete
Grease Depth, feet or inches (Grease Interceptors)	Monitor & Report	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarters	Discrete
Depth of Effluent, feet or inches (Piezometers #1 through #16)	Monitor & Record in On-site Operations Logbook	Monthly	Discrete

**Schedule of Compliance:** The Permittee shall submit the following item to the Division for review and approval (**all compliance deliverables shall be addressed to the attention of the Compliance Coordinator, Bureau of Water Pollution Control**):

- Within thirty (30) days of the permit issuance date (**Month XX, 2007**), the Permittee shall submit an updated Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Manual. If no changes have occurred to the O&M Manual since the last submittal, then so state.
- Within sixty (60) days of the permit issuance date (**Month XX, 2008**), the Permittee shall submit plans for the installation of a flow meter to monitor the sewage discharges into the septic tanks.

**Procedures for Public Comment:** The Notice of the Division's intent to issue (renew) a permit authorizing the operation of this septic treatment and disposal system, subject to the conditions contained within the permit is being sent to the **Las Vegas Review-Journal** and the **Tonopah Times-Bonanza & Goldfield News** for publication. The notice is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing for a period of thirty (30) days following the date of publication of the public notice in the newspaper. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator. The deadline date and time by which all comments are to be submitted to the Division is **December 10, 2007 by 5:00 P.M.**

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator or any interested agency, person or group of persons.

The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted.

Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determines to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.

**Proposed Determination:** The Division has made the tentative determination to issue (renew) the proposed groundwater discharge permit for a period of five (5) years.

Prepared by: James T. Hogan  
Staff Engineer II